

Hamburg allied with Lübeck  
to form the basis of the  
Hanseatic League.

1241

180th pope  
Milano, Italy

Celestine IV

Died 17 days after his election.

Great Mongol invasion under Batu.  
 They devastate Russia and Poland;  
 checked by Germans at Liegnitz,  
 and Bohemians at Olmütz;  
 they devastate Hungary; but  
 on tidings of death of ÖGDAI, the Great  
 Khan, BATU retreats, South Russia  
 remaining subject. MANGU succeeds  
 as Great Khan. HVLAK in Western Asia

1241

Gregory IX dies while Frederick  
marches on Rome

C1241

Hanseatic League Formed  
German Towns band together for  
commercial security.

The German penetration in the 11<sup>th</sup> cent.  
of the Slavic lands on the Baltic, which the Teutonic  
knights came to dominate in the early 13<sup>th</sup> cen., gave  
Germanic people control of the rich Baltic trade that  
flowed from Scandinavia east to Novgorod, west to  
London and south to Mediterranean. The origins  
of the Hanseatic League are murky, but the firmest

association between those towns that acted as  
middlemen in this great northern trade was  
formed c1241, when Lübeck and Hamburg signed  
a treaty of mutual protection. Their purpose, in an era  
when there was no strong central German Govt.  
was to provide further safety of their traders, to extend  
trading rights and, where possible, to gain a monopoly  
of those rights. More & more towns joined the league,  
which by 1300 had nearly 100 members. It  
retained its ascendancy until the 15th Cen &  
was only formally formally dissolved in  
1669.

1241

England

~~Year Head~~

"Parliament of Jews"  
meets at Worcester

Tatars reach the  
frontiers of Silesia



On death of ~~QED~~ QG EDEI,  
Genghis Khan's grandson BATU,  
commander-in-chief in the west  
withdrew his army from Poland  
to the base on the lower Volga R. to  
take part in the choice of a  
successor. The army never returned  
to Europe and it was spread though  
Russia remained a Mongol

tributary for over two centuries

1241

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~~German plane~~  
Monks destroyed a German  
Polish Army at LEGNICA,  
Hungary.

1241-1246

Ogodei's widow TOREGENE ruled Mongols as regent during 5 yrs of rivalry over the Mongol throne between her son GUYUK and his cousin BATU, son of Genghis's oldest son. Thanks to her relentless scheming, GUYUK was elected at a KURULTAI in 1246, with Batu definitely absent.

April 1241

After Russia's defeat, Ogodei's Mongol Army stunned Europe with a 2-pronged attack into Poland and Hungary.

Even the Teutonic Knights were no match for the Mongol Cavalry.

Austria was spared because the invaders went back to the steppes on news of Ogodei's death in Mongolia.

Dec. 1241

Dec 1241

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Qgodei died.  
His armies in Europe  
returned to the Steppes.

Mar 1241

Buda & Pest were separate cities, divided by the Danube. When Batu's Mongol scouts rode up to Pest, on the left bank.

Meanwhile King Béla was trying to coax his barons to face the danger.

Hordes of CUMAN steppe nomads had poured into Hungary ahead of the Mongol advance. Some nobles had come to Buda & Pest with their troops.

Batu ordered his soldiers to retreat.

Encouraged by this, Béla's nobles fell into line & set out with their monarch in cautious pursuit.

King Béla bivouacked & circled his camp with wagons. For a time they had the better of the fight, But then one wing of Batu's forces got behind them. Surrounded, the Hungarians broke out & fell back to their tightly drawn camp.

The mongols poured arrows and flaming missiles into the packed mass, setting wagons & tents on fire. The Hungarians fled, only to be cut down. 60,000 of Béla's army were killed. Béla escaped. The mongols sacked Buda & Pest & City after City.